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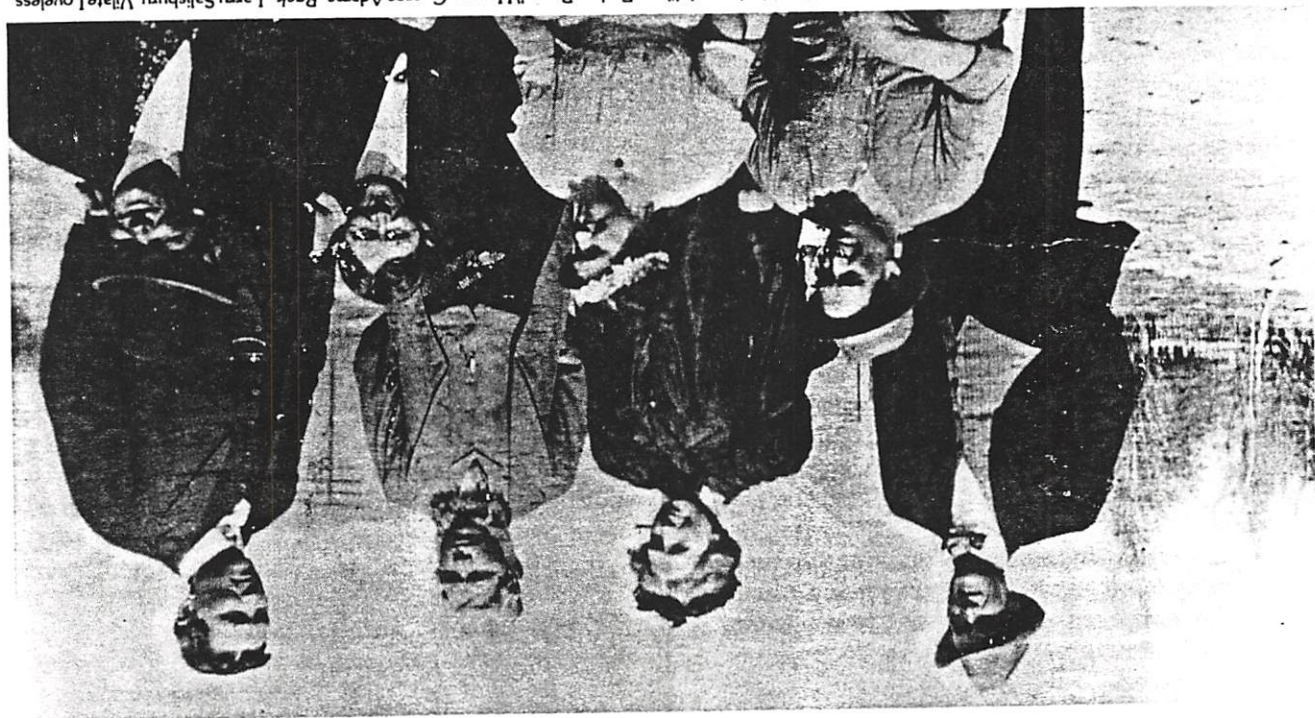
CHAPTER SEVEN RECREATION

by
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DANCE HALLS

There were a number of dance halls on the bench. Melicent Clegg Wells of Vineyard played the piano at dances held in Parcell's Hall in 1906 when she was fifteen years old. She remembers that Lewis Hebertson of Pleasant Grove played the trumpet, and one of the Adams boys played the guitar. In the early 1900's Mark E. Kartchner, Jr., built a brick dance hall on the east side of State Street just north of 400 South. It was used for dances and socials for a number of years, and later became a roller skating rink. Lillian C. Salisbury recalls that Joe and Henry Smith from the east bench on the canyon road were among the first to play at the hall; Joe played the violin and Henry played the dulcimer. Some other musicians who played for dances at Kartchner's Hall were Larry, Vera, and Gee Salisbury, as well as Leo and Fred Knight. Newell J. Kartchner's Hall on the west side of State Street. For a time this building was also used for dancing.

Early settlers were not likely to use the word "recreation" to describe having fun after a hard day's work; but they did find ways to relax when they could. They usually took advantage of the natural resources around them. They fished in the lake, river, and streams. They went on outings to the canyons to get firewood, building materials, and berries. Boating, skating, and swimming were popular sports in the summer. The pioneers' homes were often gathering places for quilting bees, rag bees, and at harvest time, cornhusking bees. The children enjoyed molasses and honey pulls. Surprise parties were fun for all ages. Often the honored guest was tipped off by a young person beforehand, but the party went on any way. Usually homemade ice cream and cake were served after everyone had played parlor games or square danced. Mormon Selman, the Timpangog Ward accordeon player, often furnished music for dancing at these parties. Despite seemingly limited sources, the early settlers on the bench found plenty of activities for their recreational pleasure.



TIMPANGOGS WARD DRAMATIC CLUB, 1909: Front - Alma Mecham, Adilene Farley, Russell Homer, George Adams, Back - Larry Salisbury, Vilate Loveless, Leo Knight, Dick Farley.